



## Actors gather on runaway prodn's

Groups meet to 'counter the us vs. them rhetoric'

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By TAMSEN TILLSON

### Current news

TORONTO -- ACTRA (The Alliance of Canadian Cinema, Television and Radio Artists), Canada's largest actors' union, is hosting the Global Protection of Performers, a special meeting of the Intl. Federation of Actors (FIA) in which they hope to lay to rest some fears about "so-called runaway production."

Executive representatives of English-speaking actors' unions from around the world are coming to Toronto this weekend to discuss the shared mandates of English-speaking performers worldwide.

### **Finding common ground**

"This proactive meeting will counter the 'us vs. them' rhetoric we've been hearing on the subject of so-called 'runaway' production," said ACTRA national executive director Steve Waddell, who will chair the event. Waddell told *Daily Variety* that the point ACTRA want to make with the program is "not to have the performer unions engaged in a dispute with each other, but to find common ground; to agree that the common enemy is not the other performers in our respective countries, but the producers exploiting performers around the world." The Global Protection of Performers is an offshoot of a similarly themed get-together held in New York with American performers' unions last October.

Also topping the agenda will be SAG's Rule One, disallowing SAG members from working on non-SAG productions outside the U.S. ACTRA is supportive of the provision, which comes into effect May 1.

Participants will include reps from the American Federation of Television and Radio Artists, the British Actors' Equity Assn., the Canadian Actors' Equity Assn., New Zealand Actors Equity, the Media Entertainment and Arts Alliance (Australia) and the Screen Actors Guild.

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